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The next chapter discusses the apparent cases of non-Mendelian heredity, inheritance only through the mother, and vegetative segregation in the first hybrid generation. This is followed by some 30 pages on the inheritance of sex, which is not wholly satisfactory on account of the omission of so much recent work from both the cytological and the pedigree culture side. Odds and ends are picked up in the next two chapters. The first is largely an account of the many peculiar results occurring in species crosses to which as yet there is no satisfactory explanation. The other describes graft hybrids and xenia.

The six remaining chapters are rather general in character, and partly for this reason are highly recommended to biologists who are not specialists in genetics. They deal with questions of variation and heredity in a broad way, from the viewpoint of a man thoroughly conversant with all modern investigations, philosophical as well as experimental.

It has been generally understood that an English translation was to appear simultaneously with the German edition. Let us hope that the war will only delay and not prevent its publication.—E. M. EAST.

#### MINOR NOTICES

**A manual of weeds.**—The present volume<sup>2</sup> is probably the most extensive and exhaustive weed manual yet published. In fact, the author has taken the term "weed" in its broadest sense and has included many plants not usually regarded as pernicious; for example, the list embraces several of the golden rods, clovers, asters, and roses, and even such trees as the wild black and choke cherries. About 500 species are described in semi-technical terms and three-fourths of them are illustrated by habit drawings. They are arranged under their respective families, but no keys or other means of identification are supplied. This seems to be the greatest defect of the manual and one that might have been rather easily remedied. Both common and scientific names are given, the former including some of the more common synonyms, and the range is made to include all of the United States and Canada. The illustrations, although rather small, will certainly prove to be one of the most useful features of the book, enabling any one with a minimum of scientific training to recognize with considerable accuracy all weedy plants of common occurrence.

Like the other volumes of this series of "Rural manuals" edited by L. H. BAILEY, this manual of weeds will be found useful as a textbook in agricultural colleges, but it makes its strongest appeal to the practical tiller of the soil. In this connection it is gratifying to note that the problems of weed control receive considerable attention, although the importance of rotation of crops seems to be less emphasized than its efficiency deserves.—GEO. D. FULLER.

<sup>2</sup> GEORGIA, ADA E., *A manual of weeds*. 12mo. pp. xi+561. figs. 385. New York: Macmillan. 1914. \$2.00.